

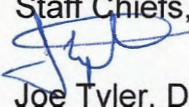
# Memorandum

**To:** Region and Assistant Region Chiefs  
Assistant Deputy Director, Coop Fire  
Assistant Deputy Director, Operations  
Unit Chiefs  
Staff Chief, Coop Fire  
Staff Chiefs, Region Operations

**Date:** April 13, 2018

**Telephone:** (530) 653-7772

**Website:** [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)

**From:**  Joe Tyler, Deputy Director, Chief of Fire Protection  
**Sacramento Headquarters**  
**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)**

**Subject:** Fire Crew Minimum Staffing Levels

The Conservation Camps Program continues to experience a reduction of offenders to staff our fire crews. Current statewide staffing averages are below 12 fire crew members per crew. To ensure CAL FIRE can meet our operational objectives and Type 1 fire crew production rates, I am establishing the direction below to maintain statewide fire crew strength:

- All CAL FIRE hand crews will be staffed with a minimum of 15 fire crew members, not inclusive of the Fire Captain, Range B.
- To achieve CAL FIRE hand crews staffed with a minimum of 15 fire crew members, CAL FIRE conservation camps may need to temporarily down staff a fire crew until such time that fire crew member population is available to staff the crew again with a minimum of 15 fire crew members.
- CAL FIRE conservation camps should make every effort to maintain a minimum of four hand crews.

This direction is intended to maximize fire crew strength with the current number of eligible fire crew members to staff fire crews. This direction does not eliminate any CAL FIRE personnel positions assigned to the conservation camps and is not intended to permanently reduce any of the 196 fire crews. As fire crew members become available to staff additional fire crews, the Conservation Camps Program will work with the regions to reinstitute fire crews.

Questions related to this direction can be referred through the chain of command to the Conservation Camps Program Deputy Chief, Justin Sanders, at (916) 651-9180.

**cc:** Ken Pimlott, Director  
Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director